Amendments:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 15, 34, 56 and 73

Please amend claims 1-8, 10-14, 16-33, 35-55, 57-67, 69-72, and 74-79 as follows. A clean copy of the amended claims is attached.

1. (Amended) A corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition comprising:

at least one fire retardant comprising an [comprised of at least one] ammonium polyphosphate;

at least one biopolymer having a weight average particle size diameter less than about 100 microns; and

a corrosion inhibiting system comprising [comprised of] at least one corrosion inhibiting compound selected from the [a] group [of corrosion inhibiting compounds] consisting of azoles, [insoluble] ferric pyrophosphate, [soluble ferric pyrophosphate,] ferrous oxalate, ferric citrate, ferrous sulfate, ferric ammonium citrate, [soluble] ferric orthophosphate, [insoluble ferric orthophosphate,] ferric ammonium oxalate, ferric ammonium sulfate, ferric bromide, ferric sodium oxalate, ferric stearate, ferric sulfate, ferrous acetate, ferrous ammonium sulfate, ferrous bromide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous iodide, ferric acetate, ferric fluoroborate, ferric hydroxide, ferric oleate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous oxide, ferric lactate, ferric resinate, and any combination thereof;

wherein said corrosion inhibiting system is present in a minor amount effective to substantially reduce corrosiveness of said fire retardant composition.

2. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said [azole is at least one azole]azoles are selected from [a] the group consisting of [azoles including] tolytriazole, benzotriazole, mercaptobenzothiazole, dimercaptothiadiazole, 1,2 benzisothiazoline-3-1, 2-benzimidazolone, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzotriazole, tolylimidazole, 2-(5-ethyl-2-pyridyl) benzimidazole, phthalimide, any alkali metal salts thereof and combinations thereof.

3. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 further comprising at least one additive selected from [a] the group [of additives] consisting of suspending agents, fugitive coloring agents, non-fugitive coloring agents, surfactants, stabilizers, corrosion inhibitors, opacifying pigments and any combination thereof.

4. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said composition is a concentrate suitable for dilution for direct application, said at least one corrosion inhibiting compound [inhibitor] is at least one azole and said at least one azole is present in said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition [, in concentrate,] in a minor amount effective to obtain a maximum corrosivity of yellow brass to a maximum of 5.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

5. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said composition further comprises a [coloring agent is at least one] coloring agent selected from a group [of coloring agents] consisting of fugitive coloring agents, opacifying pigments, and highly colored pigments [coloring agents].

6. (Amended) The composition of claim 3 wherein said suspending [agent is at least one suspending agent] agents are selected from [a] the group [of suspending agents] consisting of attapulgus, sepiolite, fuller's earth, montmorillonite, and kaolin clay.

7. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system comprises [is comprised of] at least one water-soluble corrosion inhibiting compound and at least one water-insoluble corrosion inhibiting compound.

8. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said composition is a concentrate suitable for dilution for direct application, said corrosion inhibiting system is present [in a minor amount effective] in said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition [, in concentrate,] in a minor amount effective to obtain [at least one of] a maximum corrosivity to aluminum [of 5.0 mils per year per year], yellow brass [of 5.0 mils per year, and] or steel of 5.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

10. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system [comprises in the range of] makes up from about [.01%] 0.01% by weight to about 10% by weight of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

11. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system [comprises in the range of]makes up from about [.30%] 0.30% by weight to about 6.0% by weight of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

12. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system [comprises in the range of] makes up from about 0.6% by weight to about 5.0% by weight of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

13. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 comprising [in the range of] from about [.01%] 0.01% by weight to about 5.0% by weight said at least one biopolymer.

14. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 comprising [in the range of] about 1.0% by weight said at least one biopolymer.

16. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said [biopolymer is] at least one biopolymer is selected from [a] the group [of biopolymers] consisting of rhamsan, xanthan and welan biopolymers.

17. (Amended) The composition of claim 16 wherein said at least one biopolymer is at least one xanthan biopolymer.

18. (Amended) The composition of claim 17 wherein said xanthan biopolymer [comprises] makes up about 1% by weight of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

19. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 comprising [in the range of] from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate.

20. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 comprising [in the range of] from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate and about 1% by weight xanthan biopolymer.

21. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 comprising [in the range of] from about 1% by weight to about 2% by weight iron oxide, from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric

pyrophosphate, about 1% by weight xanthan biopolymer, from about 1% by weight to about 2% by weight attapulgus clay, and from about .01% by weight to about 1% by weight tolytriazole.

22. (Amended) A corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition comprising:

at least one fire retardant [comprised of at least one] comprising an ammonium polyphosphate;

attapulgus clay;

at least one xanthan biopolymer having a weight average particle size less than about 100 microns;

at least one additive selected from [a] the group [of additives] consisting of suspending agents, coloring agents, surfactants, stabilizers, corrosion inhibitors, and opacifying pigments [and any combination thereof]; and

a corrosion inhibiting system [comprised of] comprising at least one corrosion inhibiting compound selected from [a] the group [of corrosion inhibiting compounds] consisting of azoles, [insoluble] ferric pyrophosphate, [soluble ferric pyrophosphate,] ferrous oxalate, ferric citrate, ferrous sulfate, ferric ammonium citrate, [soluble] ferric orthophosphate, [insoluble ferric orthophosphate,] ferric ammonium oxalate, ferric ammonium sulfate, ferric bromide, ferric sodium oxalate, ferric stearate, ferric sulfate, ferrous acetate, ferrous ammonium sulfate, ferrous bromide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous iodide, ferric acetate, ferric fluoroborate, ferric oleate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous oxide, ferric lactate, ferric resinate, and any combination thereof; wherein said corrosion inhibiting system is present in a minor amount effective to reduce corrosiveness of said ammonium polyphosphate to a maximum corrosivity to aluminum of 5.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of

"Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service; and wherein said biopolymer makes up from [comprises in the range of] about 0.01% by weight to about 5.0% by weight of said fire retardant composition.

23. (Amended) A method of preparing a corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition, adapted for aerial application to wildland fires, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) forming an intermediate concentrate composition comprising:

(i) a fire retardant composition [comprised of at least one] comprising an ammonium polyphosphate;

(ii) a corrosion inhibiting system comprising [comprised of] at least one corrosion inhibiting compound selected from the [a] group [of corrosion inhibiting compounds] consisting of azoles, [insoluble] ferric pyrophosphate, [soluble ferric pyrophosphate,] ferrous oxalate, ferric citrate, ferrous sulfate, ferric ammonium citrate, [soluble] ferric orthophosphate, [insoluble ferric orthophosphate,] ferric ammonium oxalate, ferric ammonium sulfate, ferric bromide, ferric sodium oxalate, ferric stearate, ferric sulfate, ferrous acetate, ferrous ammonium sulfate, ferrous bromide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous iodide, ferric fluoroborate, ferric hydroxide, ferric hydroxide, ferric oleate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous oxide, ferric lactate, ferric resinate, and any combination thereof; and

at least one biopolymer having a weight average particle size less than about 100 microns;

wherein said corrosion inhibiting system is present in a minor amount effective to substantially reduce corrosiveness of said fire retardant composition; and

(b) diluting said intermediate concentrate with water to form said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said [azole is at least one azole] azoles are selected from the [a] group consisting of [azoles including] tolytriazole, benzotriazole, mercaptobenzothiazole, dimercaptothiadiazole, 1,2 benzisothiazoline-3-1, 2-benzimidazolone, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzotriazole, tolylimidazole, 2-(5-ethyl-2-pyridyl) benzimidazole, phthalimide, any alkali metal salts thereof and combinations thereof.

25. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system comprises [is comprised of] at least one water-soluble corrosion inhibiting compound and at least one water-insoluble corrosion inhibiting compound.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said intermediate concentrate composition further comprises at least one additive selected from [a] the group [of additives] consisting of suspending agents, coloring agents, surfactants, stabilizers, corrosion inhibitors, opacifying pigments and any combination thereof.

27. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system comprises at least one azole and said at least one azole is present in said intermediate concentrate [corrosion-inhibited fire retardant] composition[, in concentrate,] in a minor amount effective to obtain a maximum corrosivity to yellow brass of 5.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term

Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

28. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system is present in said intermediate concentrate composition in a minor amount effective to reduce the corrosiveness of said [fire retardant] intermediate concentrate composition[, in concentrate,] to [at least one of] a maximum corrosivity to aluminum [of 5.0 mils per year], brass [of 5.0 mils per year and] or steel of 5.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

29. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said intermediate concentrate composition is diluted such that the corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition has a maximum corrosivity to [of] aluminum [is] of 2.0 mils per year and [the maximum corrosivity of] to brass and steel [is] of 2.0 mils per year when tested in the totally immersed condition and of 5.0 mils per year when tested in the partially immersed condition, as specified and determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

30. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said intermediate concentrate composition further comprises [coloring agent is] at least one coloring agent selected from [a] the group [of

coloring agents] consisting of fugitive coloring agents, opacifying pigments, and highly colored pigments [coloring agents].

31. (Amended) The method of claim 26 wherein said suspending [agent is at least one suspending agent] agents are selected from [a] the group [of suspending agents] consisting of attapulgus clay, sepiolite, fuller's earth, montmorillonite, and kaolin clay.

32. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said fire retardant composition comprises [in the range of] from about .01% by weight to about 5.0% by weight said at least one biopolymer.

33. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said fire retardant composition comprises [in the range of] about 1.0% by weight said at least one biopolymer.

35. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said [biopolymer is] at least one biopolymer is selected from [a] the group consisting of [a] the xanthan, rhamsan and welan biopolymers.

36. (Amended) The method of claim 35 wherein said at least one biopolymer is a xanthan biopolymer.

37. (Amended) The method of claim 36 wherein said xanthan biopolymer [comprises] makes up about 1% by weight of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

38. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said step of forming an intermediate concentrate composition comprises forming a concentrate comprising [in the range of] from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate.

39. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said step of forming an intermediate concentrate composition comprises forming a concentrate comprising [in the range of] from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate and about 1% by weight xanthan biopolymer.

40. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said step of forming an intermediate concentrate composition comprises forming a concentrate comprising [in the range of] from about 1% by weight to about 2% by weight iron oxide, from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate, about 1% by weight xanthan biopolymer, about 2% by weight attapulgus clay, and from about .01% by weight to about 1% by weight tolytriazole.

41. (Amended) A method of preparing a corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition, adapted for aerial application to wildland fires, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) forming an intermediate concentrate composition comprising:

(i) at least one fire retardant [comprised of at least one] comprising an ammonium polyphosphate;

(ii) attapulgus clay;

(iii) a corrosion inhibiting system [comprised of] comprising at least one corrosion inhibiting compound selected from [a] the group [of corrosion inhibiting compounds] consisting of azoles [azole], [insoluble] ferric pyrophosphate, [soluble ferric pyrophosphate,] insoluble ferrous oxalate, soluble ferric citrate, soluble ferrous sulfate, insoluble ferric ammonium citrate, [insoluble] ferric orthophosphate, [soluble ferric orthophosphate,] ferric ammonium oxalate, ferric ammonium sulfate, ferric bromide, ferric sodium oxalate, ferric stearate, ferric sulfate, ferrous acetate, ferrous ammonium sulfate, ferrous bromide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous iodide, ferric fluoroborate, ferric hydroxide, ferric oleate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous oxide, ferric lactate, ferric resinate, and any combination thereof; and

from about .01% by weight to about 5.0% by weight of at least one xanthan biopolymer having a weight average particle size of less than about 100 microns;

wherein said corrosion inhibiting system is present in said intermediate concentrate composition in a minor amount effective to reduce the corrosiveness of said intermediate concentrate [fire retardant] composition[, in concentrate,] to aluminum [of] to at most 5.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service; and

[wherein said fire retardant composition comprises in the range of about .01% to about 5.0% said xanthan biopolymer prior to dilution; and]

(b) diluting said intermediate concentrate composition with water to form said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition such that the corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition has a maximum corrosivity [of] to aluminum [is] of 2.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

42. (Amended) A method of suppressing wildland fires comprising aerially applying to wildland vegetation a fire suppressing composition comprising:

water; and

a corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition comprising:

at least one fire retardant [composition comprised of at least one] comprising an ammonium polyphosphate;

at least one biopolymer having a weight average particle size of less than about 100 microns;

and

a corrosion inhibiting system comprising at least one corrosion inhibiting compound selected from [a] the group [of corrosion inhibiting compounds] consisting of azoles, [insoluble] ferric pyrophosphate, [soluble ferric pyrophosphate,] ferrous oxalate, ferric citrate, ferrous sulfate, ferric ammonium citrate, [soluble] ferric orthophosphate, [insoluble ferric orthophosphate,] ferric ammonium oxalate, ferric ammonium sulfate, ferric bromide, ferric sodium oxalate, ferric stearate, ferric sulfate, ferrous acetate, ferrous ammonium sulfate, ferrous bromide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous iodide, ferric acetate, ferric fluoroborate, ferric hydroxide, ferric oleate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous oxide, ferric lactate, ferric resinate, and any combination thereof;

wherein said corrosion inhibiting system is present in a minor amount effective to substantially reduce the corrosiveness of said fire retardant composition.

43. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said [azole is at least one azole] azoles are selected from [a] the group [of azoles including] consisting of tolytriazole, benzotriazole, mercaptobenzothiazole, dimercaptothiadiazole, 1,2 benzisothiazoline-3-1, 2-benzimidazolone, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzotriazole, tolylimidazole, 2-(5-ethyl-2-pyridyl) benzimidazole, phthalimide, any alkali metal salts thereof and combinations thereof.

44. (Amended) The method of claim 42 [further comprising] wherein said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition further comprises at least one additive selected from [a] the group [of

additives] consisting of suspending agents, coloring agents, surfactants, stabilizers, corrosion inhibitors, opacifying pigments, and any combination thereof.

45. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said at least one corrosion [inhibitor] inhibiting compound is at least one azole and said at least one azole is present in said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition[, in concentrate,] in a minor amount effective to obtain a maximum corrosivity of the corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition to yellow brass of [a maximum of] 5.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

46. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition further comprises [coloring agent is] at least one coloring agent selected from [a] the group [of coloring agents] consisting of fugitive coloring agents, opacifying pigments and highly colored [colorants] pigments.

47. (Amended) The method of claim 44 wherein said suspending [agent is at least one] agents are selected from [a] the group [of suspending agents] consisting of attapulgus clay, sepiolite, fuller's earth, montmorillonite, and kaolin clay.

48. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system [is comprised of] comprises at least one water-soluble corrosion inhibiting compound and at least one water-insoluble corrosion inhibiting compound.

49. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said composition is a concentrate suitable for dilution for direct application, said corrosion inhibiting system is present in a minor amount effective to reduce the [corrosiveness] maximum corrosivity of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition[, in concentrate, to at least one of a maximum corrosivity] to aluminum [of] to 5.0 mils per year, to brass [of] to 5.0 mils per year, and to steel [of] to 5.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

50. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system [comprises in the range of] makes up from about .01% by weight to about 10.0% by weight of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

51. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system makes up from [comprises in the range of] about .30% by weight to about 6.0% by weight of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

52. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system makes up from [comprises in the range of] about .60% by weight to about 5.0% by weight of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

53. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition comprises [in the range of] from about .01% by weight to about 5.0% by weight said at least one biopolymer.

54. (Amended) The method of claim 53 wherein said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition comprises [in the range of] about 1.0% by weight said at least one biopolymer.

55. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said [biopolymer is] at least one biopolymer is selected from [a] the group consisting of xanthan, rhamsan and welan biopolymers.

57. (Amended) The method of claim 55 wherein said at least one biopolymer is a xanthan biopolymer.

58. (Amended) The method of claim 57 wherein said xanthan biopolymer [comprises] makes up about 1% by weight of said corrosion-inhibited fire retardant composition.

59. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said [step of aerially applying a fire suppressing composition comprises aerially applying a] fire suppressing composition comprises from [comprising in the range of] about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate.

60. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said [step of aerially applying a fire suppressing composition comprises applying a] fire suppressing composition comprises from [comprising in the range of] about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate and about 1% by weight biopolymer.

61. (Amended) The method of claim 42 wherein said [step of aerially applying a fire suppressing composition comprises applying a fire suppressing composition comprises applying a] fire suppressing composition [comprising in the range of] comprising from about 1% by weight to about 2% by weight iron oxide, from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate, about 1% by weight xanthan biopolymer, about 2% by weight attapulgus clay, and from about .01% by weight to about 1% by weight tolytriazole.

62. (Amended) A method of suppressing wildland fires comprising aerially applying to wildland vegetation a fire suppressing composition comprising:

water: and

a corrosion-inhibited polyphosphate composition comprising:

at least one ammonium polyphosphate;

attapulgus clay;

[in the range of] from about .01% by weight to about 5.0% by weight at least one xanthan gum having a particle size less than 100 microns;

at least one additive selected from [a] the group [of additives] consisting of coloring agents, surfactants, stabilizers, corrosion inhibitors, and any combination thereof; and

a corrosion inhibiting system [comprised of] comprising at least one corrosion inhibiting compound selected from [a] the group [of corrosion inhibiting compounds] consisting of [insoluble] ferric pyrophosphate, [soluble ferric pyrophosphate,] ferrous oxalate, ferric citrate, ferrous sulfate, ferric ammonium citrate, [soluble] ferric orthophosphate, [insoluble ferric orthophosphate,] ferric ammonium oxalate, ferric ammonium sulfate, ferric bromide, ferric sodium oxalate, ferric stearate, ferric sulfate, ferrous acetate, ferrous ammonium sulfate, ferrous bromide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous iodide, ferric acetate, ferric fluoroborate, ferric hydroxide, ferric oleate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous oxide, ferric lactate, ferric resinate and any combination thereof;

wherein said corrosion inhibiting system is present in a minor amount effective to reduce the maximum corrosivity of [corrosiveness to] said [ammonium polyphosphate, in concentrate,] corrosion-inhibited polyphosphate composition to [a maximum corrosivity to] aluminum to [of]

5.0 mils per year, as determined by the "Uniform Corrosion" test set forth in Section 4.5.6.1 of "Specification 5100-304b (January 2000) Superseding Specification 5100-00304a (February 1986)," entitled "Specification for Long Term Retardant, Wildland Fire, Aircraft or Ground Application," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

63. (Amended) A method of inhibiting corrosion comprising:

providing a corrodible material; and

contacting said corrodible material with a composition for inhibiting corrosion comprising at least one biopolymer having a weight average particle size less than about 100 microns and an effective amount of a corrosion inhibiting system [comprised of] comprising at least one corrosion inhibiting compound selected from [a] the group [of corrosion inhibiting compounds] consisting of azoles, [insoluble] ferric pyrophosphate, [soluble ferric pyrophosphate,] ferrous oxalate, ferric citrate, ferrous sulfate, ferric ammonium citrate, [soluble] ferric orthophosphate, [insoluble ferric orthophosphate,] ferric ammonium oxalate, ferric ammonium sulfate, ferric bromide, ferric sodium oxalate, ferric stearate, ferric sulfate, ferrous acetate, ferrous ammonium sulfate, ferrous bromide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous iodide, ferric acetate, ferric fluoroborate, ferric hydroxide, ferric oleate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous oxide, ferric lactate, ferric resinate and any combination thereof.

64. (Amended) The method of claim 63 wherein said [azole is at least one azole] azoles are selected from [a] the group [of azoles including] consisting of tolytriazole, benzotriazole, mercaptobenzothiazole, dimercaptothiadiazole, 1,2 benzisothiazoline-3-1, 2-benzimidazolone, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzotriazole, tolylimidazole, 2-(5-ethyl-2-pyridyl) benzimidazole, phthalimide, any alkali metal salts thereof and combinations thereof.

65. (Amended) The method of claim 63 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system [is comprised of] comprises at least one water-soluble corrosion inhibiting compound and at least one water-insoluble corrosion inhibiting compound.

66. (Amended) The method of claim 63 wherein said corrosion inhibiting system further comprises at least one additive selected from [a] the group [of additives] consisting of suspending agents, coloring agents, opacifying pigments, surfactants, stabilizers, corrosion inhibitors, and any combination thereof.

67. (Amended) The method of claim 63 wherein said corrodible material is [at least one material] selected [a] from the group [of corrodible materials] consisting of steel, brass and aluminum.

69. (Amended) The method of claim 66 wherein said suspending [agent is at least one] agents are selected from [a] the group [of suspending agents] consisting of attapulgus clay, Fuller's earth, montmorillonite, sepiolite and kaolin clay.

70. (Amended) The method of claim 63 wherein said [step of contacting said corrodible material with] at least one biopolymer [comprises contacting in the range of] is present in said composition for inhibiting corrosion in a concentration of from about .01% by weight to about 5.0% by weight [of said biopolymer is contacted with said corrodible material].

71. (Amended) The method of claim 70 wherein said at least one biopolymer is present in said composition for inhibiting corrosion in a concentration of about 1.0% by weight [of said biopolymer is contacted with said corrodible material].

72. (Amended) The method of claim 63 wherein said [biopolymer is] at least one biopolymer is selected from the [a] group [including] consisting of xanthan, rhamsan and welan biopolymers.

74. (Amended) The method of claim 72 wherein said at least one biopolymer is a xanthan biopolymer.

75. (Amended) The method of claim 74 wherein [said step of contacting said corrodible material with said composition comprises contacting said material with said composition, wherein] said xanthan biopolymer is present in the composition for inhibiting corrosion in a concentration of [comprises] about 1% by weight [of said composition].

76. (Amended) The method of claim 63 wherein said [step of contacting said corrodible material with said composition comprises contacting said material with said composition, wherein said] composition comprises [in the range of] from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate.

77. (Amended) The method of claim 63 wherein said [step of contacting said corrodible material with said composition comprises contacting said material with said composition, wherein said] composition comprises [in the range of] from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate and about 1% by weight xanthan biopolymer.

78. (Amended) The method of claim 63 wherein said [step of contacting said corrodible material with said composition comprises contacting said material with said composition, wherein said] composition comprises from about 1% by weight to about 2% by weight iron oxide, from about 2% by weight to about 3% by weight ferric pyrophosphate, about 1% by weight xanthan biopolymer, from about 1% by weight to about 2% by weight attapulgus clay, and from about .01% by weight to about 1% by weight tolyltriazole.

79. (Amended) A method of inhibiting corrosion comprising: providing a corrodible material, and contacting said corrodible material with a composition for inhibiting corrosion comprising